Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20852

6988 '99 MAY -7 PIZ:47

3 May 99

Subj: Food Irradiation Labeling (Docket #98N-1038)

To whom it may concern,

I'm corresponding to ask you to please <u>continue</u> the "radura" symbol and a statement like "treated by irradiation" <u>prominently displayed</u> on all food packaging. I want the choice to select between irradiated and nonirradiated food items and I can't make an informed choice at the point of purchase without a label denoting irradiation.

I don't believe it should be less conspicuously displayed, I understand the "radura" symbol and if anything it should be displayed even larger than it now is. I perceive it as information we need about the foods we eat. In the information age, how can we limit/downscale/eliminate a label that informs us about how our food has been treated (even if current technology may say its safe – 10 years from now it maybe determined otherwise). You may be relegating people to individually tracking (by company) the foods which are irradiated and some consumers are without the means or mental capability to follow it.

Thank you for your continued protection of the American consumer, not just as a protector of corporate profits or secrets.

Sincerely,

3718 Rhetts Landing

Belleville, IL 62221

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